

THE LACLEDE BLADE

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A. J. CAYWOOD.

FRIDAY, MARCH 12, 1920.

March first 1920 came in like a lamb. Down in Washington they are expecting March 1921 to come in like an elephant.

Last Saturday, March 6, 1920, was Missouri's one-hundredth birthday, as the enabling act making this a state was passed by congress on March 6, 1820.

The republicans in congress have already saved a billion dollars by denying the demands of the democratic administration for continuance of appropriations on almost a war-time basis.

With President Wilson and Senator Hitchcock working overtime to throw the peace treaty and its issues into the campaign, there ought not be much difficulty for any fair-minded person to locate responsibility for prevention of ratification.

The Brookfield automobile and tractor show will be held on Friday and Saturday, March 26 and 27, in the McNamara garage building. Twenty-five makes of cars have engaged space and there will be fifteen booths of accessories. A 16 piece jazz orchestra from Quincy will furnish music.

The department of justice, which has a candidate for the presidency, declares that the cost of living is going down. The department of labor, which is in sympathy with the demand for higher wages, declares that the cost of living is going up. You can take all the circumstances into consideration and take your choice.

Strikes Promote American Plan

Bricklayers strike in Oklahoma City and Norman ties up \$3,000,000 of construction work.

The strike was started and is being conducted in violation of agreements with building contractors.

The bricklayers were getting \$9 a day and struck for \$11 a day, and refused \$10 a day offered.

At Little Rock, Ark., a similar strike resulted in establishing an open-shop or American policy.

The Oklahoma strike includes two much-needed school houses and a public coliseum that should have been ready March 1.

Strikes such as this will break down the organized ring of radicalism within the ranks of labor as the public is turning against such methods.

State Auto License

Up to the first of March the secretary of state had issued 189,285 licenses to automobiles. This was an increase over a corresponding period last year of approximately 60,000. The automobile owners have already paid into the state treasury this year the sum of \$1,012,152 to the good roads fund. It is probable that by the close of the year there will be 300,000 licensed automobiles in Missouri.

Consumers Pay The Taxes

The excess profits tax and the luxury tax comes out of the consumer and the consumer is the multitude.

Take confectionery, ices and soft drinks, for example. For each adult there are ten children who buy these alleged luxuries.

The pennies on popcorn balls, the penny on chewing gum is

added on to articles sold by weight and the child consumer pays.

More than one-seventh of all the sugar consumed is sold in confectionery stores and ice cream parlors and pays the luxury tax.

We penalize the growing appetite for sweets that is taking the place of alcohol with rising generations.

The excess profit tax and the luxury tax are relics of the war and should be discarded in favor of a more equitable tax system.

Pershing's Speech

From the San Diego, Calif., Sun

At his San Diego banquet, General Pershing made a most surprising speech for a professional warrior.

He passed up all the glories and horrors of war and devoted his address to the importance of education. "If the government ever fails," he said "it will be because of the ignorance of the people who vote. The draft disclosed that 32% of American men were illiterate. During the war we established army schools, ranging from A-B-C classes to college courses, and 1,700,000 of the men who went to France received schooling of some kind. No man came back from France unable to read and write." The General is right. The bulwark against anarchy is popular intelligence.

A Dry Town

G. T. in Brookfield Gazette

Brookfield has been a dry town since January 16th.

There has not been a single person that I have heard of been seen on the streets since that time noticeably under the influence of strong drink.

People in this and adjoining towns have not been awakened from their peaceful slumbers by the noisy occupants of booze laden autos.

Money heretofore spent for booze has been used for the purchase of food and clothing for children who no longer suffer from hunger.

Wives who once trembled with fear when they heard the footfalls of their husbands approaching home, tremble no longer.

The police court is no longer busy and the city prison is tenantless.

The temptation and the opportunity to indulge in strong drink has been removed and most of those who have been tempted and yielded to the temptation are glad because it has been removed.

Is there a single citizen of Brookfield who deplors the change and who would bring back former conditions if he could?



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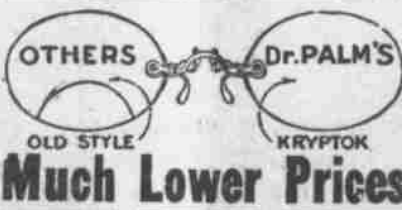
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